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ABSTRACT

At the Daytona Beach Community College (DBCC) Library, collection development, selection, and acquisitions function as levels of a hierarchy. The highest level is collection development, which constitutes the planning function. Meetings are held annually to assess user needs, evaluate the present collection, discuss budget considerations, plan for research sharing, set collective and individual goals, and revise the written collection development policy if necessary. The second level is selection, which involves decisions about inclusion and exclusion of specific items in the collection. DBCC faculty, staff, and students are involved in the selection process, but librarians have primary responsibility. Close contact with students and faculty through reference services and participation in campus committees allows the librarians to be aware of collection deficiencies and to anticipate future needs. The third level is acquisitions, which involves implementing selection decisions and collection development plans. At DBCC, all selection requests are forwarded to the head of Technical Services who coordinates bibliographic verification, duplicate checking, preparation of orders, receipt of materials, and payment processes. The disadvantages of this system are that there are no formal faculty representatives in the collection development meetings, and that collection development is time consuming. The advantages are better knowledge of the collection among librarians, greater librarian involvement in administrative decisions, no delay in selection, and no danger of areas left uncovered. This model works at DBCC because the campuses are linked by computer, and librarians have a great deal of experience and complementary interests. It may not be appropriate for all community college libraries. (WJT)

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COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT/ACQUISITIONS: COLLABORATION OR CONFLICT?

PRESENTED BY MERCEDES CLEMENT

TO THE COLLECTION MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT CAUCUS

AT FLORIDA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
67TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE
MAY 7-11, 1990

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COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT/ACQUISITIONS IS A COLLABORATION AT DAYTONA BEACH COMMUNITY COLLEGE LIBRARY. WHY?.....

Several parameters are responsible for the collaboration. In a few minutes I will talk to you about them but for now let me mention what Mr. Hendrik Edelman, a professor in library school said about collection development, selection and acquisitions.

In 1977, Mr. Hendrik Edelman presented a pre conference paper on Collection Development. At that time he explained : Collection Development, Selection, and Acquisitions are terms which represent a hierarchy. The highest level is Collection Development, which is the planning function. The second level is Selection which is the decisions about inclusion and exclusion of specific items in the collection. The third level is Acquisitions which is the process that implements selection decisions and collection development plans. In a sense, this is the way we operate at DBCC. We consider these three terms the same way. For example:

First level: COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT.

I. At DBCC Library, we have a written collection development policy we all agree with and follow. Once a year, we meet off campus in a seminar type setting to assess user needs, evaluate the present collection, discuss the budget, plan for research sharing,

then we make a collective and individual goals. During this time,

we also take a look at our policy, revise it if it is necessary. For example, last time we met, we revised a policy that affected the whole campus. Let me explain: in the past, an individual could order films and videos that would be for departmental use only. Looking at this from a librarian point of view, what is wrong with that? Being librarians, we know that our priority is to make materials accessible to all our patron. For that purpose, we made an offer to the departments on campus which they could not afford to refuse. We told them that we will share the cost of the films and videos as long as they are housed in the library where every faculty: full time and adjunct can use. They accepted our proposition. Now, we have more materials on films and videos which are available to several disciplines.

<u>Second level: SELECTION/DE- SELECTION.</u>

II. The selection process involves the faculty, staff, and students of Daytona Beach Community College. In addition, the librarians select materials from the major review sources and publisher's catalogs.

All six librarians including the director, spend time engaged in reference service. Our interaction with students, faculty and staff, and our involvement in committees such as: Academic Affairs,

Curriculum and Faculty Senate, all that exposure allows us to become

more aware of deficiencies in the collection and anticipate future needs. For example, one of us was at a curriculum committee meeting when an instructor was talking about teaching a class on artificial intelligent. We quickly gather materials on that subject. Another example, : one of our librarians is a liaison for UCF (for those of you who do not know, UCF and DBCC have an agreement for their students to use our library). This librarian reported to us that UCF plans to bring an MBA program on campus sometimes next year. Since than, we have been in contact with the instructors and selected appropriated titles for that particular program. Our interaction with students, instructors and others keep us in tone with what we need to know now and what we need for the future.

How do we conduct a de-selection? Mostly, we do it once a year, when we evaluate the collection by taking an inventory. We actually take the shelf list cards and compare them against the materials on the shelves. In so doing, we can keep track of materials that are lost and what should be replaced.
During the process, each one of us, again including the director is assigned part of the collection to review, to weed, to look for deficiencies, to send to biding, to transfer etc., all that and more can be accomplished during that process).

THIRD LEVEL: ACQUISITIONS.

III. All selection requests are forwarded to the Head of Technical Services who coordinates the search for bibliographic verification and for duplication before preparation is made for ordering.
Here you have it, this is the way we operate at Daytona Beach Community College Library.
Every model, no matter how good it is, has some advantages and some disadvantages. Let us talk about disadvantages first.

DISADVANTAGES

1. No formal faculty representative in our collection development meeting.

2. It is time consuming, because we all have other duties besides collection development.

ADVANTAGES

1. Librarians at DBCC have a better knowledge of the collection, they can describe it and evaluate it.

2. All librarians at DBCC have a part in the administrative decision making.

3. There is no great delay in selection when the librarians do it, but if we rely heavily on faculty to do it, we know what would happen. I say that because most teaching faculties do not have the time to concentrate on the library collection, nor do they have the access to all the necessary bibliographic information.

4. No danger of too many areas not covered. Why? because librarians see the big picture but faculty members think primarily of their own courses or research interests.

Together, we saw the model that is being used at DBCC: COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT, SELECTION/DE-SELECTION, ACQUISITIONS. We talked to you about what we consider as advantages and disadvantages. Now come the big question: IS THIS MODEL FOR EVERY COMMUNITY COLLEGE LIBRARY? THE ANSWER IS NO. We adopt this model because of the type of organization we have at DBCC. This

organization is composed of:

1. Five campuses linked by computer access.

2. Six professional librarians including the director and one branch librarian with a total of 50 years experiences in community college.

3. A collection of 80,000 volumes of monograph, 1,800 films and videos and 520 periodicals.

4. The collection is housed in 45,000 sq LRC.

5. Even thought we are not subject specialists we have different interests which complement each other.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, we can say that this model works for us because : we plan, we know what we need, we select materials with the big picture in mind and we buy materials wisely. That plus a professional staff who is not afraid of wearing several hats equal

COLLABORATION.

We believe that our model, though, not for every community college library, is challenging, exciting, rewarding and it works.

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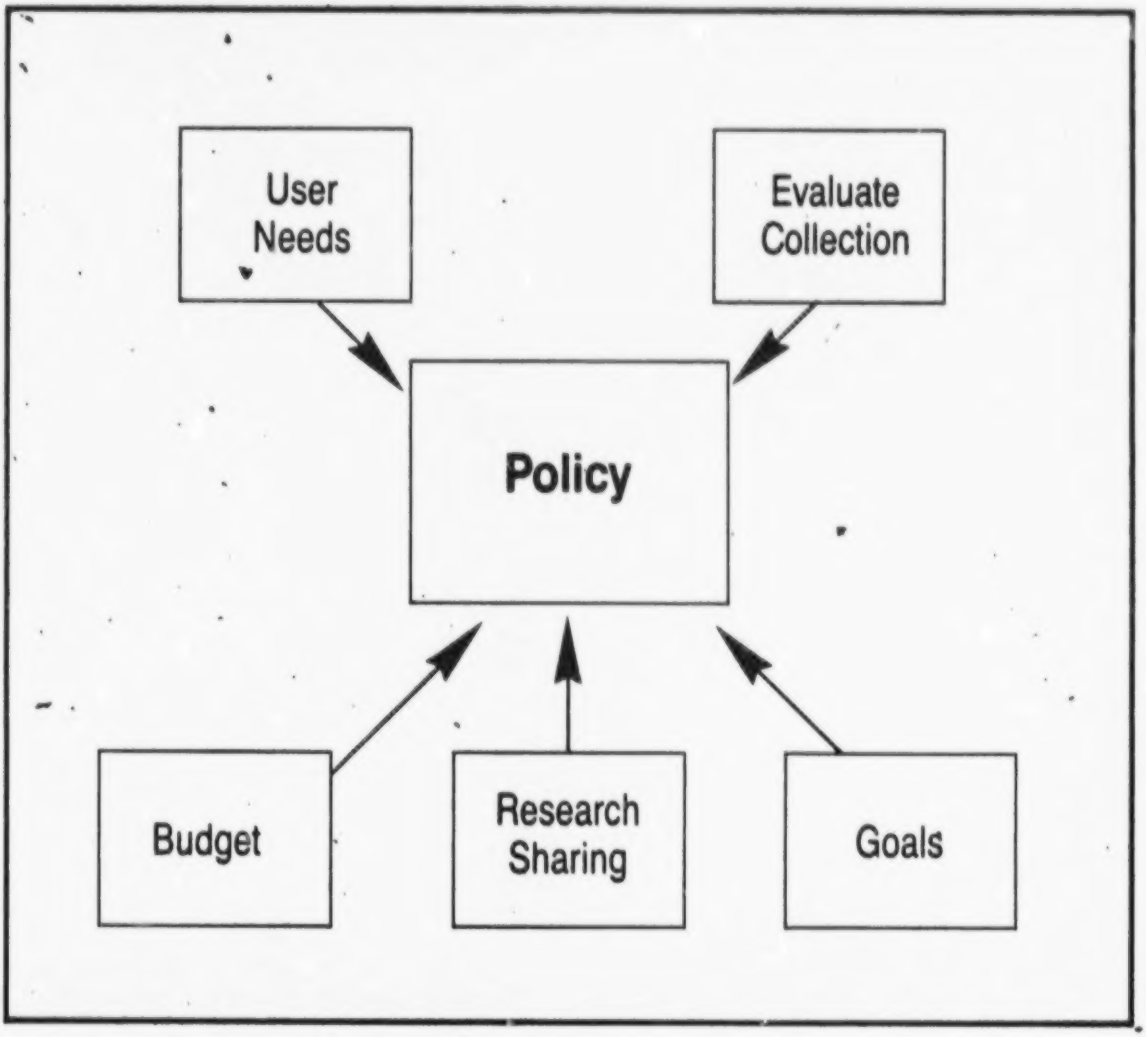
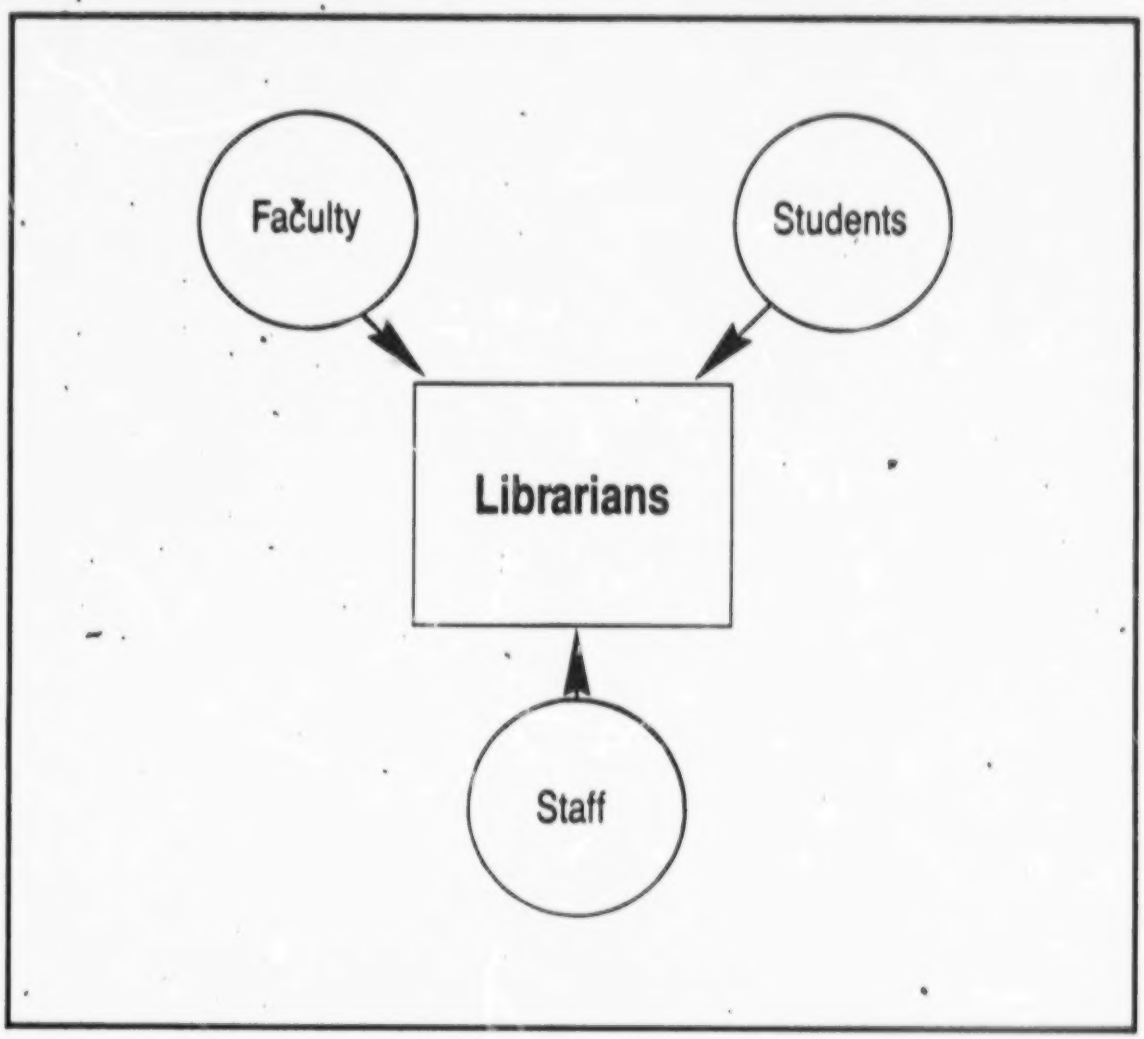
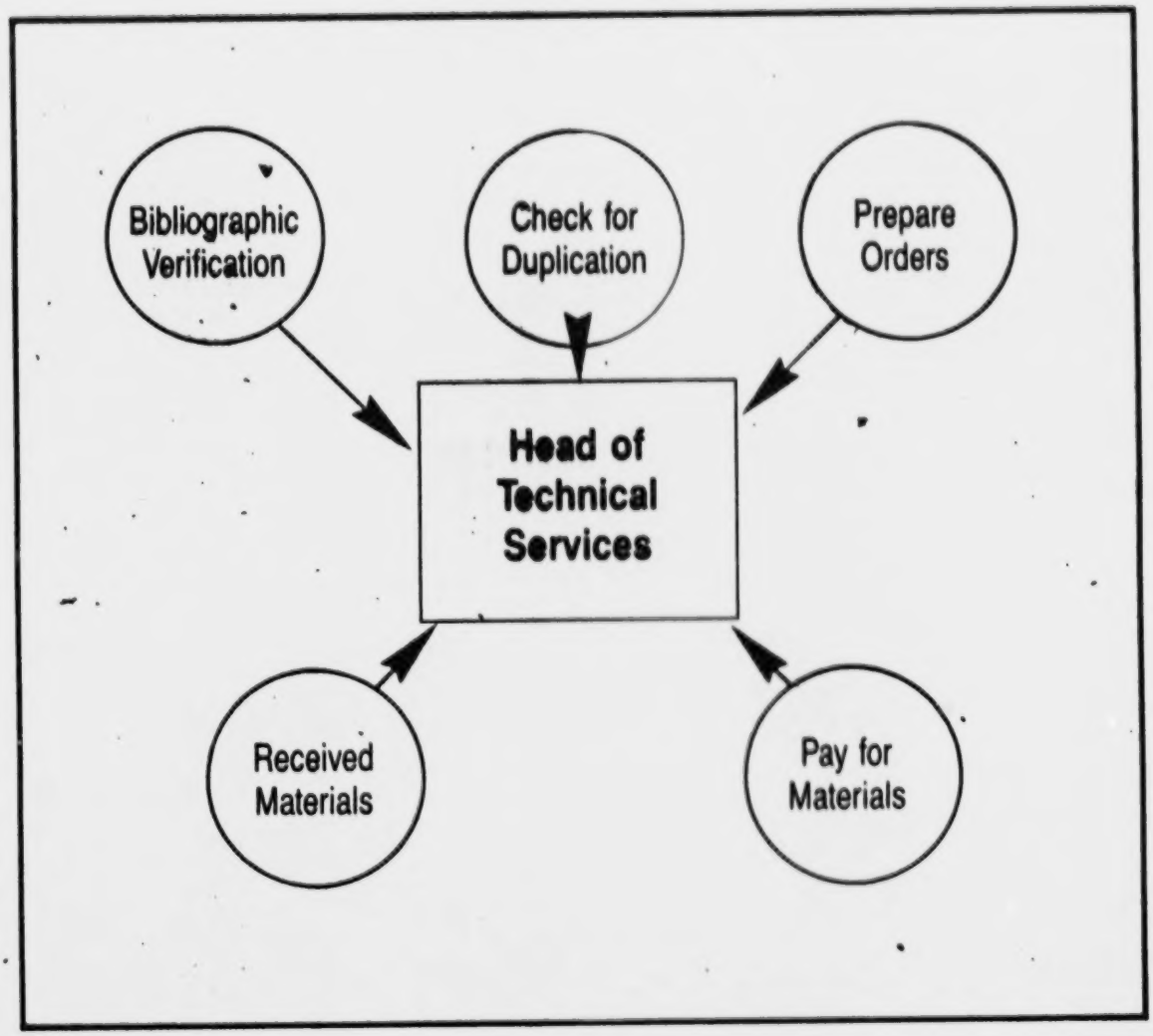
Collection Development



Selection / De-Selection

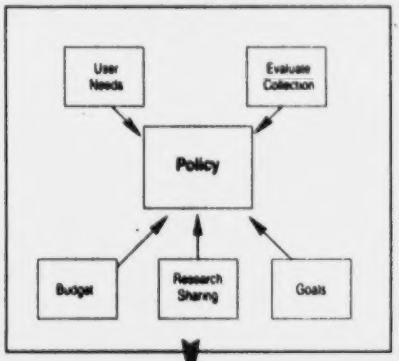


Acquisitions



DBCC
Collection Development/Acquisitions

Collection Development



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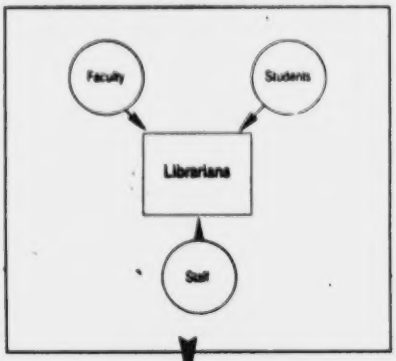
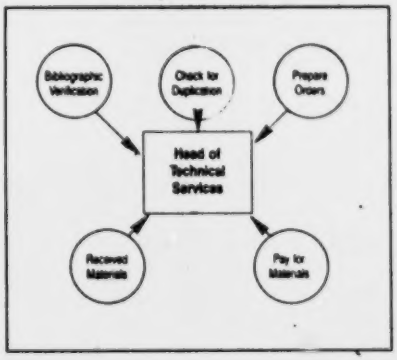


Acquisitions



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